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PATENT APP. SER. NO. 10/615,531  
ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1714765

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE: APPLICATION OF:

HIROTAMI KOIKE, ET AL.

U.S. PAT. APP. SER. NO. 10/615,531

FILED: JULY 8, 2003

FOR: SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPE

EXAMINER: NGUYEN, KIET TUAN

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Commissioner for Patents  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## AMENDMENT

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:

This Amendment is filed with a Request for Continued Examination and an IDS, after allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee. It is requested that the following amendments be entered, and that the Examiner pass this application to allowance.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

An Information Disclosure Statement is attached at the end of this paper.

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